

1. [Amended] An oligonucleotide comprising an antisense nucleic acid sequence that specifically binds to a nucleic acid encoding an antioxidant enzyme start codon, wherein the antisense sequence is about 18 to 26 nucleotides in length, and wherein the antioxidant enzyme is copper and zinc superoxide dismutase, catalase, phospholipid glutathione peroxidase, or cytosolic glutathione peroxidase.
2. [Amended] The oligonucleotide of claim 1, wherein the antisense nucleic acid is about 20 nucleotides in length.
3. [Amended] The oligonucleotide of claim 1, wherein the antisense nucleic acid sequence is [phosphothiolated] phosphorothiolated.
5. [Amended] The oligonucleotide of claim 4, wherein the antioxidant enzyme is [manganese superoxide dismutase,] catalase[,] or phospholipid glutathione peroxidase.
6. [Amended] The oligonucleotide of claim 1, wherein the antisense nucleic acid sequence is complementary to 90% [identical to] of the nucleic acid encoding an antioxidant enzyme.
7. [Amended] The oligonucleotide of claim 1, wherein the antisense nucleic acid sequence is complementary to 100% [identical to] of the nucleic acid encoding an antioxidant enzyme.
8. [Amended] A method of treating [an antioxidant enzyme malfunction disorder] a tumor in a mammal comprising reducing antioxidant enzyme levels in a cell by administering a therapeutic agent comprising an [oligonucleotide of claim 1] antisense nucleic acid sequence that specifically binds to a nucleic acid encoding an antioxidant enzyme start codon, wherein the antisense sequence is about 18 to 26 nucleotides in length.